

Message Text

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SUBJECT:VISIT OF LEONARD MARKS - FOLLOWUP PROPOSALS

REF: A. MOSCOW 13191; B. STATE 216275

1. REFTEL A REPORTING DETAILS OF LEONARD MARKS' VISIT TO MOSCOW WILL BE VERY USEFUL TO CU IN PLANNING FUTURE EXCHANGES WITH SOVIETS. FOLLOWING ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR NEW INITIATIVES ON WHICH WE COULD TAKE ACTION NOW, RATHER THAN WAIT FOR REVIEW TALKS IN DECEMBER AND DELAY IMPLEMENTATION BY SEVERAL MONTHS.

2. DEMICHEV'S PROPOSAL FOR CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA ON THE ARTS WOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO U.S. SIDE, AND RELATIVELY EASY TO IMPLEMENT. IN ADDITION TO SEMINAR FOR WRITERS, CRITICS AND PUBLISHERS WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN PROPOSED (REFTEL B), WE SUGGEST THEATER AND RELATED ARTS AS

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PAGE 02 STATE 234264

SUBJECT FOR BILATERAL SEMINAR WHICH WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO

U.S. AND WITHOUT MAJOR IDEOLOGICAL PROBLEMS. IT WOULD FACILITATE DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN THEATER SPECIALISTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND ALSO PROVIDE SOVIETS WITH FORUM WHERE THEY COULD HELP MAKE THEIR THEATER WORKS BETTER KNOWN TO U.S. THEATERS; AND THEREBY LEAD TO MORE PRODUCTIONS OF SOVIET PLAYS IN U.S. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH ZELDA FISH-ANDLER OF ARENA STAGE AND OTHERS. ADDITIONAL PROPOSALS FROM EMBASSY WOULD BE WELCOMED.

3. DEMICHEV'S PROPOSAL FOR LECTURES PROVIDES OPENING FOR INCREASED VISITS TO USSR BY AMSPecs IN LITERATURE AND THE ARTS. WE HAVE CRITIC TED SOLOTAROFF AND NOVELIST JOHN GARDNER READY FOR VISITS LATER THIS YEAR, AND ARE ABLE TO OFFER NOVELIST JOHN WIDEMAN AND OTHERS. WE HAVE ASKED P.E.N. CLUB AND NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND LETTERS TO SUGGEST YOUNG, PROMISING U.S. WRITERS WHO WOULD OTHERWISE NOT HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT USSR, AND WE EXPECT TO MAKE SOME SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO EMBASSY SHORTLY. THERE IS GREAT INTEREST AMONG U.S. WRITERS FOR SUCH VISITS AND WE HOPE EMBASSY WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE LARGER PROGRAM THAN IN THE PAST.

4. RE PROPOSAL FROM MIDWEST UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM FOR ARTS EXCHANGE WITH SOVIETS TRANSMITTED BY SENATOR HUMPHREY, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING COPY OF PROPOSAL AND EMBASSY LETTER TO CONSORTIUM.

5. WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH A NUMBER OF PROMINENT AMERICANS RE TRAVEL TO USSR UNDER AMSPEC PROGRAM AND WILL BE ADVISING EMBASSY SHORTLY RE SPECIFIC NOMINATIONS.

6. RE DIRECT UNIVERSITY-TO-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES WE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH MGU RECTOR KHOKHLOV AND INTERESTED U.S. UNIVERSITIES.

7. RE PERFORMING ARTS EXCHANGES, CU MAY BE PROPOSING SMALLER, AS WELL AS LARGER U.S. GROUPS. HOWEVER, IF GOSKONTSERT AGAIN MENTIONS ITS PREFERENCE FOR SMALLER U.S. GROUPS, EMBASSY MAY WISH TO POINT OUT THAT US SIDE RECENTLY RECEIVED BOLSHOI OPERA AND BALLET, WITH TOTAL COMPANY OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 234264

WELL OVER 600 PERSONS; AND PREPARING RECEIVE MOSCOW STATE SYMPHONY (115) AND MOSCOW CIRCUS (90) THIS FALL.

8. WE WOULD WELCOME SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR EXCHANGES WITH THE UKRAINE (KIEV UNIVERSITY AND MINCULT). A KIEV UNIVERSITY VISIT, ALONG LINES OF MGU VISIT (BUT SMALLER), WOULD BE WELCOME. KISSINGER

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